

March 24, 1976

CLERK: Mr. President, the committee on Revenue, Senator Carsten offers committee amendments. Then Senator...

PRESIDENT: Alright, Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President and members of the legislature, we had two amendments in the committee. The first one was brought by Senator Maresh when we heard the bill and his amendment completely struck the original bill and in it's place the original bill provided for a sales tax on motor fuels. His amendment then restricted or cut that clear out and put strictly a 1¢ increase on the fuel tax. That was the one amendment. The other one was an amendment that was presented to us after the hearing by the Highway Department. What that one does or said allows the state road or highway to be transferred to the county after it has been improved to a standard consistent with criteria developed by the Board of Public Roads classification in standards for the state highway system. That is the second amendment. The committee voted to adopt both amendments and I so move, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull. Okay, you move the adoption of the committee amendments. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Maresh asks, offers the following amendment. (read amendment found in Legislative Journal on page 1342)

PRESIDENT: Senator Maresh.

SENATOR MARESH: Mr. President, I agree with... That was my amendment that I offered to the committee about changing it from a sales tax to a 1¢ increase in the gas tax but the other part didn't have a hearing. It was something that the Highway Commission proposed and I think this is something that should be in separate legislation and have a public hearing and probably even have a study on this rather than to try to piggyback it on a tax increase. So I move that this be adopted. That section 1 be stricken from the committee amendment. I so move.

PRESIDENT: Senator Carsten.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, and members of the legislature, this amendment that he is striking, as the committee understood, was an amendment that was, we had assumed and understood, has been accepted by the counties as well as the Highway Commission. That assumption or understanding apparently was not true. We understand that the county officials do not accept this and even though they made an attempt to amend it that they thought would be acceptable. Senator Maresh does not feel that he can accept it and I'm going to leave it to your own judgement. I'm not going to endorse or not endorse his suggestion. The committee felt that it was alright to begin with but I do want you to know that we may very well have had a misunderstanding and I think that the Highway Commission might have very well had also. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stull, do you wish to speak on this amendment?